U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/844,477 Reply to Office Action dated December 13, 2006

REMARKS

In the subject Action, claims 1-4, 7-11, 14-18, 21-25, 28-32, 35-39, 42-46, 49-53, and 56 were rejected. Applicants have amended claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 36, 43, and 50. These amendments are supported by the specification at least at page 10 lines 6-10. Claims 1-60 and 65-72 remain pending in the present application. In light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and advancement of this application to allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-4, 7-11, 14-18, 21-25, 28-32, 35-39, 42-46, 49-53, and 56 were rejected under §103(a) as being obvious over Raisanen et al. (hereinafter "Raisanen") in view of Boda et al. (hereinafter "Boda").

Claim 1 recites, among other limitations, a step of producing output packet traffic wherein "the probability of buffer occupancy of <u>a downstream buffer</u> receiving said output traffic versus buffer occupancy of said downstream buffer has an upper bound which approaches a straight line in the large buffer limit." (emphasis added)

In sharp contrast, Raisanen fails to disclose or suggest that "the probability of buffer occupancy of a downstream buffer receiving said output traffic versus buffer occupancy of said downstream buffer has an upper bound which approaches a straight line in the large buffer limit." Rather, Raisanen discloses a traffic shaper for controlling traffic bandwidth usage in an Internet protocol network to guarantee proper quality of service for different types of real times.

